

Morocco – Culture Smart!

The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture

By Jillian C. York

Morocco is a joy to the senses. Graced with spectacular scenery, the country's rich history is carved into its architecture and baked into its cuisine. Its marketplaces are filled with tantalizing scents and colorful sights, and the call of the muezzin seems to draw people from every corner of the globe. In 1956 Morocco gained independence from French colonial rule and was jolted into the 20th century. Today it is a country in transition—a unique blend of Arab, African, and European ways of life. The teeming cities have an air of sophistication and joie de vivre, but life in rural areas has stayed much the same. And while the cities are highly Westernized, tradition and religion still play a vital role in the everyday life of most people.

Culture Smart! Morocco describes the life of Moroccans today, as well as the key customs and traditions that punctuate daily life. It examines the impact of religious beliefs and history on their lives, and provides insight into the values that people hold dear, as well as recent social and political developments.

***Culture Smart!* guides are created to help travelers have a more meaningful and successful time abroad through a better understanding of the local culture. Chapters on values, attitudes, customs, and daily life will help you make the most of your visit, while tips on etiquette and communication will help you navigate unfamiliar situations and avoid faux pas.**

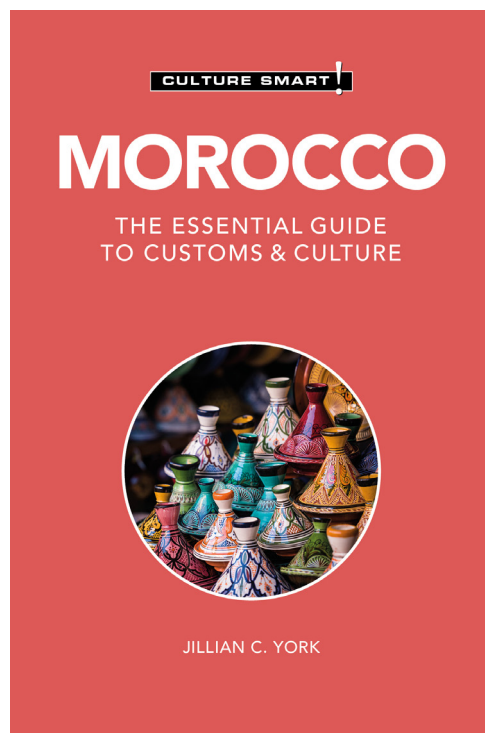
Jillian C. York is an American writer and journalist who focuses on the intersection of technology and politics. Author of *Silicon Values: The Future of Free Speech Under Surveillance Capitalism*, Jillian has a BA in Sociology from Binghamton University, where she specialized in North African and Middle Eastern Studies. As part of her degree course, Jillian studied Arabic at Al Akhawayn University in Ifran, Morocco, and taught English at the American Language Center of Meknes.

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